

CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS
5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

M97-R-21

JULY 7, 1997

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Saul N. Ramirez Jr. led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

IN ATTENDANCE:

SAUL N. RAMIREZ, JR.,	MAYOR	
JOSE R. PEREZ,	COUNCILMEMBER,	DISTRICT I
LOUIS H. BRUNI,	"	DISTRICT II
ALFONSO I. "PONCHO" CASSO,	"	DISTRICT III
ELISEO VALDEZ,	"	DISTRICT V
JOE A. GUERRA,	"	DISTRICT VI
MARIO GEORGE ALVARADO,	"	DISTRICT VII
CONSUELO MONTALVO,	"	DISTRICT VIII
GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.,	CITY SECRETARY	
FLORENCIO PENA,	CITY MANAGER	
JAIME L. FLORES,	CITY ATTORNEY	

ABSENCES:

Motion to Cw. Moreno due to an out-of-town commitment.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Casso not present.

Motion to dispense with the regular order of business and move up items D(1), (a) - Communications, A(1), #34 and #67 jointly, F(1) and #66.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Casso came joined the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

IV. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

2. Approving an assignment from Aero Center, Inc. to the Laredo National Bank of that airport lease agreement for hanger #142, buildings #144, #147, and #148 approved by Ordinance No. 94-O-001 dated January 3, 1994 and authorizing the City Manager to execute said Consent of Assignment.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Approving an assignment from Aero Center, Inc. to the International Bank of Commerce and Sanchez-O'Brien Oil and Gas Corporation, a joint venture, of that lease agreement for an approximate 1.001 acre tract of improved land approved by Ordinance No. 95-O-154 dated August 7, 1995, and authorizing the City Manager to execute said Consent of Assignment.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Authorizing the City of Laredo City council to accept the assignment of a leased contract issued to Panorama Broadcasting for the use of an area of land for the construction of a television station tower and authorizing the City Manager to take such steps as are necessary to execute the document to finalize the transaction.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Authorizing the City Manager to execute Quitclaim Deeds, to the following seven grantors, the City of Laredo's interest to the Mineral Rights acquired through the conveyance of seven tracts of additional right-of-way for the Mines Road Widening Project. Said seven tracts being Parcel Nos. 29, 42, 43, 53, 54, 55, and 57; being situated in Webb County, Texas, and providing for an effective date. PARCEL 29 (Santos Costilla and San Juanita Costilla, original grantors as per warranty deed to the City of Laredo, recorded in volume 48, Pages 023-024, real property records, Webb County, Texas). A 1.1006 acre tract being out of Porcion 10, Tomas Sanchez, original grantee, Abstract

280, also being out of a 10.0 acre tract of land (Tract 2) unrecorded 172.90 acre tract subdivision, Webb County, Texas as conveyed by deed from Jack E. Blanco to Santos Costilla and San Juanita Costilla as recorded in volume 13, pages 747 and 748, real property records, Webb County, Texas.

PARCEL 42 (Venola Sanchez, Original Grantor, as per warranty deed to the City of Laredo, recorded in volume 23, pages 233-234, real property records Webb County, Texas) - A 1.0080 acre tract being out of Porcion 10, Tomas Sanchez, Original Grantee, Abstract 280, also being out of a 4.4292 acre tract (Tract 1) as conveyed by deed from Rodolfo Salinas, Jr., to Venola Sanchez as recorded in volume 517, pages 259-265, deed records, Webb County, Texas.

PARCEL 43 (Ernestina B. Wolter, Original Grantor as per warranty deed to the City of Laredo, recorded in volume 21, pages 771-772, real property records, Webb County, Texas) -A 1.5225 acre tract being out of Porcion 10, Tomas Sanchez, Original Grantee, Abstract 280, also being out of a 5.3614 acre tract (Tract 14) as conveyed by deed from Fernando Babiak and wife, Elva Rosa Babiak to Ernestina B. Wolter as recorded in volume 572, Pages 97-101, deed records, Webb County, Texas.

PARCEL 53 (Elias Herrera and wife, Olga F. Herrera, Original Grantors as per warranty deed to the City of Laredo, recorded in volume 160, pages 122-123, real property records, Webb County, Texas). A 1.3167 acre tract being out of Porcion 10, Tomas Sanchez, Original Grantee, Abstract 280, also being out of a 6.4119 acre tract (Tract 30) as conveyed by deed from Rodolfo Salinas, Jr., to Elias Herrera and Olga P. Herrera as recorded in volume 517, pages 410-417, deed records, Webb County, Texas.

PARCEL 54 (C.C.M. Financial Inc., Original Grantor as per warranty deed to the City of Laredo, recorded in volume 73, page 881, real property records, Webb County, Texas). An 1.3186 acre tract being out of Porcion 10, Tomas Sanchez, Original Grantee, Abstract 280, also being out of a 6.6788 acre tract (Tract 31) as conveyed by deed from Edward M. Pina, a single man to Carlos Nelli Marsicano, et al, as recorded in volume 1341, pages 5-8, deed records of Webb County, Texas.

PARCEL 55 (Agustin Meza, Jr., and wife, Vilma Meza, Original Grantors as per warranty deed to the City of Laredo, recorded in volume 22, page 175, real property records, Webb County, Texas). Am 1.3186 acre tract being out of Porcion 10, Tomas Sanchez, Original Grantee, Abstract 2280, also being out of a 7.2909 acre tract (Tract 32) as conveyed by deed from Rodolfo Salinas, Jr. to Mr. Agustin Meza Jr.,

and Vilma S. Meza as recorded in volume 517, Pages 426-433, deed records, Webb County, Texas.
PARCEL 57 (Carlos Casiano, Jr., David Casiano, Ramon Casiano, Demetrios Casiano, Tomas Casiano, Daniel Casiano, Raquel Casiano Elliott, Guadalupe Casiano Calvitt, Reynaldo Mireles and Manuel Mireles, individually, and as independent executor, Original Grantors as per warranty deed recorded i Volume 100, Page 424, Real Property Records, Webb County, Texas) - A2.8669 of an acre tract being out of Porcion 10, Tomas Sanchez , Original Grantee, Abstract 280, also being out of a 5.1272 acre tract (Tract 69) as conveyed by deed from Rodolfo Salinas, Jr., to Carlos Casiano and wife, Julia Casiao, as recorded in volume 589, pages 7-3-605, deed records, Webb County, Texas.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

6. Authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to revert a tract of land containing 20,380.31 square feet, more or less, out of the Mines Road (FM 1472) R.O.W. to its original owner, but retaining it as a Drainage & Utility Easement. Said tract of land being out of a 5.9755 acre tract of land situated in parts of Porcion Nos. 17 and 18, Webb County, Texas, and being generally described below and more particularly described by metes and bounds and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

7. Amending Ordinance No. 95-O-299 by changing Exhibit A; thereby authorizing the City Manager to execute database access agreements with any requestor of online access to inspect city property tax records database via computer modem; contract term to change so all will end on September 30, 2002 and the annual maintenance, processing, programming, and data manipulation fee will be eliminated; a one time equipment fee is required for the cost of the equipment; providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

8. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a ground lease with Alderete Communications, Inc., a Texas Corporation, for the erection, maintenance, and operation of a skeletal steel guyed communications tower and associated equipment building located at the Jefferson Street Water Complex.
 1. Lease term will be fifteen (15) years commencing August

- XX, 1997 and ending August XX, 2011 (Date will be determined after second reading of this ordinance).
- 2. Rent will be payable in advance; first year's rent is \$8,676.00, and adjusted annually according to changes in the consumer price index.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

V. FINAL READINGS

Motion to waive the final reading of ordinances #97-O-119, #97-O-129, #97-O-130, #97-O-131, #97-O-132, #97-O-133, #97-O-133, #97-O-134, #97-O-135, #97-O-136, #97-O-137, #97-O-138, #97-O-139, #97-O-140, #97-O-141, #97-O-142, #97-O-143, #97-O-144, #97-O-145, #97-O-146, #97-O-147, #97-O-148, #97-O-149, and #97-O-150.

Moved : Cm. Perez
Second: Cw. Montalvo
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 9. 97-O-119 Ordinance amending the zoning ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning the west 46.3 feet of Lot 3, Block 1059, Eastern Division, located at 1915 Norton Street from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez
Second: Cw. Montalvo
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 10. 97-O-129 Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to effectively convey the "Surface Only" of Lot 2, Block 2165-A, Eastern Division, as per replat recorded in Volume 16, Page 93, of the Webb County Plat Records, City of Laredo, County of Webb, Texas, also known to be located on the 2400 block of Diaz Street to Jesus Javier Martinez and providing for an effective date. Said property is being sold to the highest bidder as accepted by City Council pursuant to public sale of this property on May 28, 1997. (City Council)

salary and fringe benefit costs for six task force investigators in the Multi-Agency Financial Disruption Task Force awarded by the Office of National Drug Control Policy for the period of July 1, 1996 and ending June 30, 1997; providing for publication and effective date. (Jose A. Guerra)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cw. Montalvo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. 97-0-143 Ordinance amending City of Laredo's 1996-1997 budget in the amount of \$1,082,467.00. Of this amount, \$711,562.00 is grant funds, with the City designating \$370,905.00 in matching funds for a grant from the Criminal Justice Division for Multi-Agency Narcotics Task Force for the period of June 1, 1997 through May 31, 1998 and authorizing the City Manager to sign any and all documents pertaining to this grant application; providing for publication and effective date.
(Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cw. Montalvo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. 97-0-144 Ordinance amending the City of Laredo's 1996-97 annual budget in the amount of \$325,000.00, for a grant awarded by the Texas Water Development Board to develop a Flood Protection Plan for the Chacon Watershed; the composition of the \$325,000.00, is \$260,000.00 from the Texas Water Development Board, \$42,500.00 Webb County, (\$17,500.00 cash and \$25,000.00 in-kind), \$5,000.00 from Webb County Drainage District No. 1 and \$17,500 from the City of Laredo. The city will provide \$25,000.00 in in-kind services. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cw. Montalvo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. 97-R-069 Accepting the donation of three parcels of land as Dedications of Right-of-Way for the extension of International Boulevard, from the following owners: Mr. Gerardo G. Salinas - 0.5246 of an acre, Mr. Leopoldo G. Benavides - 2.2903 acres, and Mr. Leopoldo Flores - 0.6108 of an acre. Said parcels being situated between the West Meadowlands Subdivision in the City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas and more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows: PARCEL 1 - Gerardo G. Salinas - Being 0.5246 acres of land, more or less, out of porcion 23, Abstract 283, Leonardo Sanchez, Original Grantee, and being part of a 22.15 acre tract conveyed to Gerardo G. Salinas by Juanita A. Linares on 08-April-1991, as per Volume 1478, Page 307, real property records of Webb County, Texas. PARCEL 2 - Leopoldo G. Benavides - Being .2903 acres of land, more or less, out of Porcion 23, Abstract 283, Leonardo Sanchez, Original Grantee, and being part of a 17.38 acre tract conveyed to Leopoldo G. Benavides by Francis M. Hanson, et al on 11-May-1990, as per volume 143, page 425, and a 21.5747 acre tract conveyed to Leopoldo G. Benavides by Leopoldo Salinas et ux on 01-January-1991, as per volume 1463, Page 149, both being out of the real property records of Webb County, Texas. PARCEL 3 - Leopoldo Flores - Being 0.6108 acres of land, more or less, out of Porcion 23, Abstract 283, Leonardo Sanchez, Original Grantee, and Porcion 24, Abstract 268, Toribio Rodriguez, Original Grantee, and being part of a 8.5013 acre tract conveyed to Leopoldo Flores by Agapita S. Flores on 08-May-1979, as per volume 584, page 303, deed records of Webb County, Texas.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VII. MOTIONS

- 39. Refund of property taxes in various amounts to the following individuals or companies:
 - a. Love Imports in the amount of \$946.27, as a result of a clerical error,
 - b. Texas Auto Service in the amount of \$739.54, as a result of a clerical error,
 - c. Dynair CFE Services in the amount of \$1,932.92, as a result of a value not depreciated,
 - d. HEB Grocery Company in the amount of \$1,251.44, as a result of a double payment.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Bruni
 For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 40. Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program in the amount of \$249,981.00, for second year funding of this grant for the period of October 1, 1997, through September 30, 1998. These monies will be used to pay for the salaries, fringe benefits, equipment, etc., of four officers.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Bruni
 For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 41. Approval of bid specifications and authorization to advertise for bids for the following:
 - a) telephone equipment - Public Library
 A tentative bid award is scheduled for August 18, 1997.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Bruni
 For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 42. Approval of the construction plans and specifications and authorization to advertise for bids for the construction of a 60 million gallon per day intake structure at the Jefferson Street Water Treatment Plant as per the Texas Water

Development Board Requirements. Tentative award is scheduled for September 1, 1997.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

43. Approval of the construction plans and specifications and authorization to advertise for bids for the construction of 68 accessible ramps at 17 intersections at San Agustin Plaza, Bruni Plaza and Saint Peters Plaza and related access routes to Jarvis Plaza in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Tentative award is scheduled for August 18, 1997.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

44. Award of a four month office supply contract to the LOW BIDDER, Executive Office Supply, Laredo, Texas, for providing general office supplies for all City Departments. This contract is based on lowest bid submitted for forty-three general office supply items most commonly used by all City Departments. A percentage discount will also be offered from the vendor's current catalog for general office supplies not listed on the city's bid list. Items will be purchased on an as needed basis. Contract pricing is 2% less than the previous contract amount. A total of 5 bids were received.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

45. Award of an annual service contract to the LOW BIDDER, Lawn Masters, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$104,314.00, for providing ground maintenance services for the Utilities Department, the Bridge System, and the Parks Department. The contract includes cutting cycles at all three International Bridge locations, the water plants, booster station, the wastewater treatment plants, storage tank locations, utility easements, and the Clark Street median. A total of four bids

were received for this service. The contract pricing is the same as the previous year. Funding for this contract is available in the particular Department's Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

46. Award of contract to the LOW BIDDERS, Consolidated Electrical Distributor, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$11,400.00, for the purchase of forty area light fixtures. These will be replacements for the light fixtures currently installed at the Market Street Tennis Court. A total of four bids were received. Funding is available in the Parks and Recreation Department budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

47. Award of contract to the LOW BIDDERS, Proforma, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$6,980.00, for the purchase of 2,000 T-shirts, and Mendes Printing, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$3,390.00, for the purchase of 7,000 activity books. These activity books and T-shirts will be used in conjunction with the educational and promotional activities of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. A total of nine bids were received for the T-shirts, and seven were received for the activity books. Funding is available in N.P.D.E.S. - Hazard Household Waste Collection Program Grant Monies.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

48. Award of contract to MZB Video Solutions, Inc., Dallas, Texas, a State of Texas Qualified Information System Vendor, in the amount of \$13,425.00, for the purchase of a replacement character generator for the Public Access Division. This equipment is used to superimpose text and images on screen. Staff is recommending purchasing this equipment through the State of Texas -Catalogue Purchase

Program. Funding is available in the Public Access Capital Outlay Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

49. Approval to select Design Group International to provide consulting architectural/engineering services for surveys, design and preparations of plans and specifications for the Major Rehabilitation of the Market Street Tennis Courts Project, one of the 1996-1997 Capital Improvements Projects, and authorization for the City Manager to negotiate a fee for professional services. Funding is available in the C.D. Market St. Courts Account.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

50. Authorizing the City Manager to negotiate an amendment to the Laredo Northwest International Bridge (Fourth Bridge) engineering contract with Structural Engineering Associates, Inc. (San Antonio) for an amount of approximately \$600,000.00. The current contract for field surveys for the bridge head area is \$70,450.00. This amendment will provide for the professional services required to perform the Bridge design, the Border Station Masterplan, and the architectural design of the temporary Federal Facilities. Funding is available in Bridge Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

51. Award of a construction contract to the LOWEST BIDDER, Libcon, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$304,542.50, for the Paving of International Boulevard from Salinas Key Subdivision to the west end of Meadowlands Subdivision, approximately 1,800 L.F. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund International Boulevard Construction

Project. A total of two bids were received for this project. Contract time is 150 days.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

52. Award of a construction contract to the LOWEST BIDDER, McLean Construction, Inc., Killeen, Texas, in the amount of \$261,012.40, for the Alma Pierce Elementary School Drainage and the Herradura Rancho Viejo Drainage Improvements Projects. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund Herradura/Rancho Viejo Drainage Project. A total of two bids were received for this project. Contract time is 90 days.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

53. Award of an engineering contract to Foster Engineering Company for an amount not to exceed \$20,401.95, to provide surveys, design and preparation of plans and specifications for the Laredo International Bridge No. 1 Pavement Reconstruction at Approaches, Phase I. Funding is available in Bridge System Construction Project -Import Lot. Contract time is 60 days.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 1
Cm. Guerra

54. Approval of amendment no. 1, an increase of \$3,789.00, to the engineering contract with Ueckert Engineering, Laredo, Texas, for the Willow/Chacon Drainage Improvements for additional design of a culvert and street reconstruction at Chacon Street. Funding is available in the Drainage Improvements Willow-Chacon Drainage. Original Contract amount was for \$5,800.00. This amendment will bring the total to \$9,589.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Valdez
 Second: Cm. Alvarado
 For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

55. Approval of amendment no. 2, an increase of \$38,616.25, to the engineering contract with Foster Engineering, Laredo, Texas, for additional design work for widening on both side of Del Mar Boulevard, drainage and other related improvements in conjunction with the widening of Del Mar Boulevard between Springfield Avenue and McPherson Road. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund Del Mar Boulevard Construction Project. Original Contract amount was for \$81,500.00. This amendment will bring the total to \$123,527.25.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Bruni
 For: 6

Against: 0 Abstain: 1
 Cm. Guerra

56. Approval of amendment no. 5, an increase of \$10,120.00, to the Resident Project Representative Services Contract (inspection services) with Hickey and Associates, Inc., Laredo, Texas, for the New Laredo Airport Passenger Terminal in compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Requirements to provide additional uninterrupted inspection services. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund Inspection Fees. Original Contract amount was for \$191,744.80. This amendment will bring the total to \$288,654.80.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Bruni
 For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

57. Approval of amendment no. 1, an increase of \$3,336.00, to the original contract of \$42,087.00, to Naismith Engineering, Inc., Laredo and Corpus Christi, Texas to conduct risk based assessments of Underground Storage Tank sites, in compliance with Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission RG-17 rules and regulations, at 4200 Bartlett (LPST ID No. 101133) and 518 Flightline site 6, (LPST ID No. 101536) and to complete the necessary paperwork for Texas Natural Resource

Conservation Commission reimbursement process. The increase of \$3,336.00, which was not anticipated, is due to the additional drilling, sampling, and laboratory analysis. This amendment will bring the total to \$45,423.00. Funding is available in Airport Fuel Account.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

58. Approval of change order no. 3, a decrease of \$41,095.10, as contract retainage for the deletion of the Toll Business Management System (TBMS) portion of the construction contract with Cubic Toll Systems, Hauppauge, New York, and acceptance of the Laredo International Bridge Toll Collection System at Bridge No. 1 and Bridge No. 2. Final construction contract amount including this change order is \$780,806.90. Funding is available in Bridge System Retainage Payable Construction Account.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

59. Approval of change order no. 3, a net decrease of \$39,220.60, to the construction contract with H.B. Zachry Company, San Antonio, Texas for the New Laredo International Airport Passenger Terminal and Related Airside/Landside Improvements Phase B. This change order has an increase of \$410,311.00, for the installation of new taxiway lights and runway lights, and a decrease (credit) of \$449,531.60, is for underruns on the runway construction. Current construction contract amount is \$11,068,510.71. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

60. Approval of amendment no. 9, an increase of \$38,000.00, to the architectural/engineering (A/E) contract with Hellmuth,

Obata & Kassabaum, (HOK) Dallas, Texas, for the Re-design of electrical and lighting system for runway 17L/35R at the Laredo International Airport. This work was not in the original contract with HOK. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is funding approximately 90 percent of the cost to reconstruction runway 17L/35R and approves of this change order. Funding is available from savings in the construction contract with H.B. Zachry, which contract is being amended to decrease the contract amount by \$39,220.60. Original Contract amount was for \$1,135,000.00. This amendment will bring the total to \$2,452,851.85.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Bruni
 For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 61. Approval of change order no. 1, an increase of \$7,155.00, to the Malinche Avenue Re-Alignment Street Improvements construction contract with Ramex Construction Company, Inc., Houston, Texas, for additional traffic signal underground conduits and to lower a 12 inch waterline. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund Malinche Re-alignment Project. Original contract amount was for \$137,702.40. This amendment will bring the total to \$144,857.40.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Bruni
 For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 62. Authorize the sale of surplus heavy equipment through sealed bids. The equipment will be sold to the highest bidder exceeding the City's minimum price. The proceeds from this sale will be used to purchase a new dozer tractor for use at the City Landfill. The equipment to be sold include:

	<u>Description</u>	<u>Minimum Bid</u>
a)	1985 Caterpillar Chipsreader	\$ 35,000.00
b)	1985 Bros. Reclaimer	\$ 30,000.00
c)	1985 Furakawa Front End Loader	\$ 10,000.00
d)	1989 Case Front Loader	\$ 15,000.00
e)	1988 Caterpillar Backhoe/Loader	\$ 10,000.00
f)	1991 Caterpillar Scraper	\$150,000.00
g)	1991 Caterpillar Compactor	\$ 30,000.00

- h) 1993 Caterpillar Bulldozer
Tractor

\$140,000.00
\$420,000.00

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

63. Approval of specifications to bid EPA certified laboratory services to conduct the federally mandated "Information Collection Rule" studies on drinking water.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

64. Authorizing the transfer of residual funds from completed projects, in various water and wastewater bond issues.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

65. Approval of change order no. 2, an increase of \$138,453.00, to the construction contract with Lambda Construction Company, New Braunfels, Texas, for the replacement of drive cages for sludge thickeners and rack arms which were severely damaged by corrosion at the Jefferson Street Water Treatment Solids Handling Improvements Project, and to add 90 calendar days to the construction contract time. Funding is available in the Waterworks System Fund. Original Contract amount was for \$2,451,300.00. This change order will bring the total to \$2,602,165.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

66. Request for confirmation of Mr. Tomas Ramirez for appointment to the position of Fire Chief with possible Executive Session pursuant to section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code to discuss said confirmation.

Motion to confirm Mr. Tomas Ramirez for appointment to the position of Fire Chief.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Casso

For: 6

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cw. Montalvo

67. Presentation by Vesta Rea and Associates, airport consultant, regarding efforts to improve air service at Laredo International Airport, and consideration of a resolution in support of improved air service at Laredo International Airport.

Vesta Rea, Aviation Consultant team of Vesta Rea & Associates and Apogee Research Inc., made the presentation before the council on the study and road map to expand the airline and air cargo markets at Laredo International Airport. She explained the surveys conducted and the methodology used on airline market and route analysis study and airline presentation package. She reported that the survey showed that of those passengers who indicated that they have taken more business trips than pleasure trips over the last 12 months, 87% of them drove to San Antonio. The main reason that they chose for having flown out of San Antonio is the ticket cost. Business flyers out of either Laredo or San Antonio chose as their top destination both Dallas and Houston. She added that 94% of the pleasure travelers drove to San Antonio because of ticket price and the top destinations flying out of either Laredo or San Antonio, were Las Vegas and Dallas. The majority of business and pleasure travelers elected to fly Southwest Airlines out of San Antonio to their final destination if Southwest offered service out of Love Field to their end destination.

Ms. Rea suggested that a team to sell Laredo needs to include members of the City Council.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, requested that one council member be part of the team to sell Laredo.

Mayor Ramirez volunteered and named Cm. Bruni to the team to sell Laredo.

Cm. Bruni suggested that staff looks into the possibility of subsidizing jet service or whatever it takes to get a first class jet service to Laredo and asked support from the council.

Mayor Ramirez suggested that we not only provide a plan of action to get domestic service on line, but also get Central and South American airlines to use Laredo as a HUB for both passengers and cargo.

68. Update on the status of the Colonias Facility Plan and financial application.

Edward Garza, from Crane Engineering and representing Paul Garza Engineering, reported that all engineering data has been approved by the Texas Water Development Board. Comments by the Historical Commission have been received and they will wrap it up within 7 days. They will review all information to see that it is proper and will send it back to the Water Development Board. He concluded by saying that he is confident that they will move on it for the next months financial report review.

Fernando Roman, Utilities Director, stated that the process throughout the state has been very slow, the last time he checked with the board they said they still had \$250 million unallocated for projects and that they didn't have more than \$50 million on their plate that they wanted to review. He feels there is still plenty of money for the City of Laredo and added that the environmental industry is the one creating the slowdown.

69. Authorize the City Manager to negotiate with the City of Laredo depository bank (NBC Bank of Laredo) an interim credit facility for the payment of costs associated with the design, planning, and surveying of the Laredo N.W. International Bridge, i.e. Bridge IV.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Guerra
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

70. Presentation on proposed contract with Transworld Systems, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$8,800.00, for the purpose of implementing a pilot project at the City of Laredo Health Department for debt collection services on past due EMS service accounts owed to the City of Laredo.

Motion to approve the proposed contract with Transworld Systems, Inc.

Moved : Cm. Perez
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

71. Request for Executive Session to be conducted pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code to discuss pending or contemplated litigation: City of Laredo vs. Makro Business International, Inc., Cause No. C-94-00717-D3, in the 341st Judicial District Court of Webb County, Texas.

Jaime Flores, City Attorney, reported there is an agreed final judgment on the case. Reading that judgement it is his opinion that it is unquestionably our property and we can go ahead with the construction. He added there is still some replatting to be done by Makro Business International, but that is not a condition president for us not to proceed with the construction, the extension of the truck route, and the building of the retaining wall along Orilla. Makro has yet to do the replatting and the building of the retaining wall around Mann. They have gone out there and looked at it, looked at the agreed judgment and put it in writing in terms of what the City Engineer might need from us to say go ahead and proceed. As to whether the funds are there to do that that's another matter, he is just rendering the opinion of the agreed final judgement which definitely gives us the go ahead and that there is nothing holding us back from proceeding with the construction.

Cm. Alvarado asked the City Manager to have some cost figures for the budget hearings.

72. Request for Executive Session to be conducted pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code to discuss pending or contemplated litigation regarding the investigation of the Fleet Maintenance Division.

Motion to go into Executive Session to be conducted pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code to discuss

pending or contemplated litigation regarding the investigation of the Fleet Maintenance Division.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

After executive session Mayor Ramirez announced that no formal action was taken.

Mayor Ramirez informed the public that staff will take this item under advisement as per the City Attorney's advice.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Recognition of employees who have retired from the City of Laredo with 20 years or more of service for the period of January, 1997 thru June, 1997. These individuals are as follows:

Magdalena Baez	(21 years) Day Care Division, Community Development Department, February 28, 1997.
Benito A. Bondoc	(26 years) Fleet Maintenance Division, Public Works Department, February 28, 1997.
Angel O. Cuellar	(20 years) Engineering Department, April 30, 1997 - received by his son.
Jesus L. De Leon	(20 years) Health Department, February 28, 1997.
Francisco Flores	(26 years) Public Works Department, January 31, 1997.
Jose L. Leal	(24 years) Education and Recreation Department, May 31, 1997.
Carlos Mendoza	(25 years) Fleet Maintenance Division, Public Works Department, January 31, 1997.
Rosalinda Moncivais	(21 years) Day Care Division, Community Development Department, February 28, 1997
Adriana Salinas	(20 years) Day Care Division, Community Development Department, February 28, 1997.

Recognition was made to city employees who have retired from the City of Laredo with 20 years or more of service for the period of January, 1997 thru June, 1997 by Mayor Ramirez and Councilmembers.

The following retirees were absent:

Adolfo Esquivel (28 years) Police Department, January 31, 1997.
Francisco R. Martinez (39 years) Police Department January 31, 1997.
Ramon Zamarripa (27 years) Utilities Department, January 31, 1997.

- b. Cm. Bruni expressed condolences to the family of Charles Borchers.
- c. Florencio Pena, City Manager, reminded the Council of the COPS Workshop on Thursday, July 10th at 5:30 p.m.

X. CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION

73. Requests by Mayor and City Councilmembers for discussion and presentation.

A. Requests by Mayor Pro Tem Jose R. Perez, Jr.

- 1. Presentation regarding the U.S. Conference of Mayor's Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

Cm. Perez expressed the exciting moment during the U.S. Conference of Mayors when President Clinton announced his appointment of Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. as Assistant Secretary of HUD. He showed a video of the event that was shown on CNN.

- 2. Discussion and possible action to form an Ad Hoc Committee for the Waste Management Program.

This item was discussed together with item C(1).

Mr. Perez reported that Hector Farias had requested to meet with staff on programs available to the city in the Waste Management Programs. At this point he thinks we need an Ad Hoc Committee from the council to participate to keep close tabs on the things that are happening and to see if there is something they can offer the city to enhance the Waste Management Program.

Cm. Casso wants to make sure that staff meet with these gentlemen because we need this information or analysis prior

to our budget hearings because we need to explore other avenues to save money for the city.

Mr. Pena stated that the request by Mr. Farias was to meet with City Council and himself, he was told that council had given 90 days to do that. Mr. Farias said that what he really wants to do is meet with staff and get information.

Mayor Ramirez named Cm. Perez as chairperson to the committee Cm. Casso and Cm. Bruni as the other two members.

3. Requesting a status report on the following projects:
 - a. Southgate Pilot Channel
 - b. Channel repairs on San Salvador, and
 - c. New York/Barrios additional water inlets drainage project.
 - d. Channelization from San Salvador to Pine,
to include timelines for construction completion.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, made the presentation as follows.

- a) The plans were prepared in-house, the contractor is Pete Gallegos, contract is for \$333,823.00, there was a pre-construction contract on June 17th, the contract period is 3-1/2 months, the estimated time of completion is October, 1997 and the project is on schedule.
- b) The engineering plans were done in-house, contract has been awarded to Pete Gallegos Paving Company for \$98,790.00, there was a pre-construction contract on April 21st, the contract period is four months, with an estimated time of completion date for August, 1997, the project is on schedule, but there is a change order pending on this project that might extend the contract time.
- c) The New York/Barrios additional water inlets is a drainage project that was requested last year to be done by Public Works, it involves the construction of a valley gutter, the reconstruction of approximately 75 linear feet of curb and gutter, the project was designed already, it is scheduled to be under construction within the next few weeks, maybe by the end of July.
- d) Engineering plans were prepared by Foster Engineering, the contractor is Ramex Construction, pre-construction conference was scheduled for July 10, 1997, contract

period is six months, the estimated time of completion is January of 1998.

B. Requests by Councilmember Louis H. Bruni

1. Discussion and possible action on adding the 3500 block of Guerrero, the 1800 block of Harding and the 2300 block of Canada to the current street paving project.

Cm. Bruni requested the possibility of placing these blocks on project 60 with funds from project savings.

Mr. Pena stated that this project has already been added to project 60, the problem with project 60 is short about \$250,000.00 at the present time.

Mayor Ramirez asked that staff bring back to council an analysis of our current bridge revenues with overages so that they will know the projected and actual collections on tolls at the bridge. He also wants the assessments and where the receivables are, where the money has gone into, whether debt service, back into the general fund or whether it went to the city debt service. Finally that staff come back with a recommendation for funding the additional \$250,000 to see if they can reconfigure the actual Project 60 to see what streets are in there that they haven't included in CDBG for potential funding under the project.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, replied that in approximately 20 days staff can present what's available.

Cm. Perez requested for staff to explore Section 108 funds.

Motion direct staff to find the necessary funds to pave these three (3) blocks and include Milmo by the Aldo Tatangelo Day Care Center in the current paving project.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion and possible action on adding the following streets to our street recycling project: Hackberry, Post Oak, Cypress, Cactus and Dogwood.

Motion to add the following streets to our street recycling project: Hackberry, Post Oak, Cypress, Cactus and Dogwood (for next year's program).

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Discussion and possible action on the drainage problem at Clark (Spur 400) and Ejido.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, stated they have been in contact with TxDot and they told staff that they will take care of this problem. This is a problem where there is a concrete channel that runs perpendicular with Spur 400 that the culvert that is located at Spur 400 is higher than the elevation of the concrete channel so as a result there is some ponding of water. TxDot has admitted that the elevation of the design of that concrete channel was not appropriate. They have asked for a timetable from them to correct it and they have admitted to the inappropriate design of the culvert and will be correcting it.

Cm. Bruni stated that the issue is that it is wastewater with sludge, it is not acceptable, and it creates a health issue for the residents around the area and wants a preventive maintenance type of approach.

4. Discussion and possible action on instructing staff to provide council with a cost estimate on adding brick paver's to the Clark Boulevard median between Bartlett and Arkansas.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, stated that he will bring back estimates and recommendations. The present estimates are \$65,000 if we use base blocks and \$51,000 if we use texture concrete.

Cm. Bruni requested that we go out on informal bids.

C. Requests by Councilmember Alfonso I. "Poncho" Casso

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the economic evaluation process for the Laredo Landfill.

This item was discussed with A(2).

2. Discussion and possible action regarding a presentation by Dr. Trevino regarding the Market Street Tennis Courts.

Dr. Trevino, President of the Tennis Association, requested from Council the possibility of hiring a tennis professional to teach at the courts and that this person would also be responsible for policing and maintenance of the courts. He stated that this would encourage greater use of the facilities and get more tournaments to Laredo. The salary range would be between \$18,000 to \$23,000 per annum.

Mrs. Tina Trevino asked support from council on this endeavor.

Motion to request from staff to bring this item for presentation at budget time with costs and options.

Moved : Cm. Casso

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the Supreme Court decision that struck down a key portion of the Brady federal gun-control law.

Cm. Casso stated this law has been defeated, now the Police Department and the Sheriff's Department are not required by law to do background checks on individuals who apply for a gun license, is the Police Department still doing it, how many people are applying for handguns in Laredo and will the Police Department continue to do it?

Agustin Dovalina, Interim Chief of Police, replied that "yes" they are still doing it, they will continue to keep it status quo, they will be conducting background checks, and the Sheriff's Department will also continue to do the same. He will get Cm. Casso a count of how many people have applied for handguns in Laredo.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the tampering of police records with a presentation by Humberto Gonzalez.

Motion to table for the next meeting for executive session.

Moved : Cm. Casso

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

D. Requests by Councilmember Eliseo Valdez, Jr.

1. Presentation by Kayla Sanchez, Nena Dominguez, and Dante Munoz concerning the upcoming South Texas Youth Conference hosted by the Church of the Crossroads to be held from August 7-10, and requesting a proclamation for "Picture-a-Prayer" Day.

Wesley Boyd, on behalf of youth of the Church of the Crossroads, introduced Nena Dominguez who informed he council of the event to help troubled youth.

Dante Munoz spoke on the upcoming events, commercials, and announcements and stated that this is the first event ever in the United States.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding the development of an action plan to address the frequent number of waterline breakages in the Hillside Neighborhood, especially in the areas along Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois Streets.

Fernando Roman, Utilities Director, stated they have identified the blocks that need to be replaced and identified the source of funds for these projects. He thinks this project might cost between \$40,000-\$100,000 depending on the conditions of the lines. They have not brought the project at council level because they need to discuss the final plans with Mr. Pena, but as soon as that is done then it will be brought for funding and then they can begin immediately.

Cm. Valdez wants to know what kind of action can be taken to tackle this area.

Mr. Pena stated that there are two areas of concern the Hillside area south of the creek which is South Dakota. A plan is in place to replace those service lines, what happened is that they used some kind of plastic pipe on the service lines and they need to replace them, they will do this as soon as they have the funding approved. All these Capital Improvement Projects will be decided during the CIP hearings and at that time they will have the project cost identified.

Mr. Roman stated that the problem on the other side of the creek is more of a pressure problem. They get pressure from the water plant or the Lyon Booster Station and one of the sides has much higher pressure than the other. The plan is to provide some reduction of the pressure from the high side.

Mr. Pena stated that they haven't designed a project at this time on how to resolve this problem, but they will work on it and by budget hearings they will have a cost estimate.

Cm. Bruni stated they need an city-wide action plan to address for frequent water breakages.

Motion to create a city-wide action plan to address for frequent water breakages and address it at the budget workshops.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mayor Protem Perez was chairing the meeting.

3. Status report on the construction of a pedestrian bridge connecting the Northeast Hillside Recreation Center to the park, with possible action.

Cm. Valdez stated this is now a safety issue and a graffiti problem.

Mayor Ramirez asked it was scheduled to put lights in those areas.

Joe Garza, Parks & Recreation Director, answered there were some lights installed at the recreation center that were operational a month ago. The vandalism problem will take place with or without the bridge. On the bridge, the last time they discussed this, they had a couple of possible leads for some individual private corporations to possibly donate the funds in order to build the bridge, the pieces haven't come together yet. On the preliminary discussions on the CIP they have identified this as a priority when council reviews the projects. He added that for a prefabricated structure it's about \$50,000.00, they will look at options to bring the cost down, but nevertheless it wasn't identified as something that has been funded in this current fiscal year, but they are hoping to fund it next year.

Motion to bring this item back with a cost estimate and if we don't have the funding, come up with set of plans, and draft a letter and approach the private sector.

Moved : Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

4. Requesting a staff report regarding the extension of Arkansas Boulevard connecting to Bustamante and how this increased traffic will impact McPherson Road between Bustamante and Calton Roads.

Mr. Pena stated they can try and do some traffic projections of the additional traffic. If we get funded in our second phase of the Economic Development Grant which is to build the Public Works Yard Facility on Bartlett north of the airport, they are going to extend Bartlett to connect to Gale, so in essence there will be some relief of traffic from McPherson by having that connection. The long term plan which is not funded as of yet, would be to continue the extension of Bartlett to Del Mar. There will be two parallel roads running north/south from Del Mar to Hwy. 59. He added that they can still do some counts to assume what kind of projections will resolve when Bustamante is completed.

Cm. Valdez requested a study or report with some type of action plan or recommendation to see how they can implement that into the CIP.

E. Requests by Councilmember Joe A. Guerra

1. Presentation by Aldo Tatangelo regarding affordable housing.

Mr. Aldo Tatangelo spoke about areas that are viable that nothing has been done, there are 40 parcels of land that still belong to the city, and added that the problem with affordable housing is the cost of land. He added that we got into substandard housing and there is lack of affordable housing. His concern is what are we doing for the barrio people for affordable housing. He said that we have the capability, we attested that it can be done, we did it with Poncho de la Garza.

Mayor Ramirez stated that at the Three Points area they have 32 homes that have already been designed and we are going out for bids for housing behind the Aldo Tatangelo Day Care Center. We do have some homes projected for construction on Cm. Valdez's area the only problem is that they have to make sure that residents have their due process. The other thing is that they have been able to put over 200 homes on the ground including Poncho de la Garza housing project, they cannot build enough of them quick enough because we are a growing city.

Cindy Collazo, CD Director, stated that on the one on Springfield there are eight (8) lots that can be utilized on Bustamante, however they are waiting that the lift station be eliminated through the 18" wastewater line that is currently under construction, that should be completed by December and hopefully by January they can go out on construction on that project. Those are seven (7) homes, but if the lift station is eliminated they hope to add one more.

On Marcella by Springfield they are hoping to place seven (7) homes, that property needs to be replatted, they need to get an engineer to get utilities in there. It is paved and there is one other street that they are trying to add which will be added to the project.

On the Three Points area they do have the 32 units that are currently under design by Sanchez & Sanchez, they are trying to work with that one using innovative methods to keep the cost of the construction down. They are trying to target those people in the very bottom and hope to be under construction by November.

F. Requests by Councilmember Mario G. Alvarado

1. Discussion and possible action requesting that the Laredo Police Department implement Senate Bill No. 267/House Bill No. 1379. This legislation allows for public notification of sex offenders when they come back into our community after being released from prison.

Ms. Cynthia Ambrose representing SCAN explained that this law has been in effect since September 1, 1995. She added that the process is simple, the parole officer is responsible of notifying the offender to register, once they register (either adult or juvenile sex offenders) with their local law enforcement depending on the jurisdiction (Sheriff's Office or LPD) who is responsible for notifying the media and the superintendents of UISD or LISD. She said they are pushing on notifying the communities also. There have been many cases where many of these offenders are on probation but nobody knows, and these people continue to victimized these children. They were before council hoping that council can help push and emphasized the points of utilizing the notification process. She concluded by saying that people have the right to know what offenders are living in their jurisdiction.

Ms. Sandra Hernandez of SCAN stated that community has the right to be know who is living in their neighborhood and the only way they can stop child abuse is by making the community aware of where these offenders are living. She urged that council help them in utilizing the Police Department pass this bill.

Cm. Alvarado stated that a copy of this bill has been forwarded to the Crimes Against Persons at the Police Department, he has talked to some officers and this particular right is not being utilized at this point and time. He is hoping that this information has been looked at and reviewed and that action will be taken by the Police Department.

Agustin Dovalina, Interim Chief of Police, stated they received the information and are reviewing the overall bill structure, they do have an existing registration system where sexual offenders do come by and register with PD. They are reviewing the overall makeup to come up with something in the form of community notification system and are actively looking at that right now.

2. Update regarding the status of the Father Charles McNaboe Park Project.

Joe Garza, Parks & Recreation Director, stated that they went out on bids the second time and a few days ago they received the bid tabulation, there was only one contractor and it is \$1 million over budget once again. What they haven't been able to do is sit down as a staff and bring all the parties together to discuss what kind of alternatives they are going to present to council for recommendation purposes. They need to bring UISD because they are playing a major role in this project, they have a \$250,000 investment and they are hoping to come back to council with a recommendation at the next council meeting.

Mr. Pena stated that by the time of Capital Improvements hearings they will come back with a strategy of how to accomplish this project.

3. Follow-up on a request for a traffic signal study at the intersection of Milo and El Portal entrance.

Mr. Roberto Murillo stated they looked at both locations and the traffic on Alburn was greater than the one at Gabin so

they decided to conduct the study at that location. In addition, they received a request from Hurd Development on behalf of Gateway Transfer where they provided projections for Gateway Transfer if and when they move all their operation and all the traffic it would generate. They offered to participate in the funding of the signal, however the counts that they took indicated that a traffic signal was not warranted.

Also discussed at the last meeting was the possibility of talking to TxDot regarding the use of these projections, they plugged the projections into the formula used for the warranting of a signal, using the projection there is a possibility that it would warrant if when and all the operation moves and if the numbers are according to what was provided. In talking with TxDot's engineer he said that since it is on the state right-of-way, it would have to be approved by TxDot and that they might consider projections, however there needs to be a study done by a professional firms, submitted to TxDot for review and if it shows and indicates that it warrants it they would consider the projections. He mentioned that they would give authorization to install the light, but would not be able to activate the light until figures show that it is warranted and until they meet the requirements.

He concluded by saying that the final alignment of Milo will play a big role, so they are recommending that a signal not be installed because it is not warranted, and because they should wait to see what happens with the alignment of road.

Cm. Alvarado wants something in writing on Mr. Murillo's explanation and on the requested study so that he can present it at the neighborhood meetings. He wants to look at what traffic signals are going to be prioritized in his district wants options to see what steps can be taken, cost estimates as to what it would cost for that type of study by a professional firm. In future request he wants a written report when the information is complete.

4. Follow-up on a request made by the City Council on 6-2-97 to reduce the speed limit on the Mines Road.

Mr. Landin, Bridge and Traffic Directors, stated that a letter sent to TxDot to go ahead and prepare a traffic study on Mines Road. The information they received from TxDot is that they are going to make a study from the railroad crossing to where the road splits, one mile to the north.

He added that (TTI) Texas Transportation Institute is contracted from the highway department to do their speed studies and they are not going to do this study until August when their fiscal monies come up. The study will be done by October.

Mr. Landin spoke in reference to the traffic signal at Mines Road, he said he received a letter from Mr. Killam opposing that traffic signal, but as soon as they have all the parameters of the situation he will bring this issue back to council.

Cm. Alvarado wants a copy of Mr. Killam's letter.

5. Discussion with possible action requesting road maintenance by the Public Works Department on Industrial Boulevard and Santa Maria.

Joe Guerra, Public Works Director, stated that the road maintenance will have to be done on a Saturday because of the high traffic and if it needs an overlay, they will overlay without any problem.

XI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

74. Public hearing concerning the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant. This hearing is to inform the public about the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program and the application submitted by the City and the Laredo Police Department to the U.S. Department of Justice, as well as to solicit input from the public on the allocation of funds from the grant.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Miss Diana Navarro, Administration Planner for the Police Department, gave a history on the Block Grant Program. She reported that these funds are for the hiring of new officers.

Cm. Casso wants a breakdown report on how much it is spent in court time and breakdown on overtime where its going.

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Alvarado
 For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

75. Public hearing approving amendment two to the budget in the amount of \$9,500.00, for the Chronic Disease Prevention Program, Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Project (BCCCP), of the City of Laredo Health Department and extension of contract term period from June 30, 1997, through August 31, 1997.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance approving amendment two to the budget in the amount of \$9,500.00, for the Chronic Disease Prevention Program, Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Project (BCCCP), of the City of Laredo Health Department and extension of contract term period from June 30, 1997, through August 31, 1997, providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Bruni
 For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
 Second: Cm. Perez
 For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

76. Public hearing approving a contract with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and budget in the amount of \$5,250.00, for the Education and Training Program of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning February 1, 1997, through September 28, 1997.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance approving a contract with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and budget in the amount of \$5,250.00, for the Education and Training Program of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning February 1, 1997, through September 28, 1997, providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez
Second: Cw. Montalvo
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Mr. Juan Barrera wanted to know what kind of training it is.

Mr. Robinson stated primarily for the nursing staff.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Perez
Second: Cw. Montalvo
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 77. Public hearing approving a contract with the Texas Natural Resource and Conservation (TNRCC) and budget in the amount of \$25,000.00, to continue the operation of a continuous air monitoring station (CAMS) by the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning September 1, 1997, through August 31, 1998.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance approving a contract with the Texas Natural Resource and Conservation (TNRCC) and budget in the amount of \$25,000.00, to continue the operation of a continuous air monitoring station (CAMS) by the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning September 1, 1997, through August 31, 1998, providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez
Second: Cw. Montalvo
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Alvarado
 For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

XII. MOTION TO RECESS AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD

Motion to recess as City Council and convene as The Laredo Mass Transit Board.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
 Second: Cm. Perez
 For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

78. Approval of bid specifications and authorization to advertise for bids for Security Guard Services for the Laredo Transit System/City of Laredo. The Security Guard Services Contract will provide four (4) uniformed security guards for the security and safety of the Laredo Municipal Transit Center, El Metro Operations and Maintenance Buildings and its patrons.

Motion to approve bid specifications and authorize to advertise.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cw. Montalvo
 For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

79. Public hearing and motion to realign route #13 Heritage Park in order to provide public transportation to an area known as the ghost town neighborhood situated west of Arkansas Avenue.

There is a correction from west to east by Mr. Gilbert Segovia, Transit Manager.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Bruni
 For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to realign route #13 Heritage Park in order to provide public transportation to an area known as the ghost town neighborhood situated west of Arkansas Avenue.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XIII. MOTION TO RECESS AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MUNICIPAL HOUSING CORPORATION

Motion to recess as The Laredo Mass Transit Board and The Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation.

Moved : Cm. Perez
Second: Cm. Bruni
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

80. Authorization to advertise for Request for Proposals (RFPs) for consulting services to prepare an engineering preliminary survey and a survey of final improvements for 50 single family dwellings of affordable housing for applicants of the Lease/Purchase Program located on Block 1, Lots 16-24; Block 2, Lots 2-10; Block 3, Lots 2-10 and 13-21; Block 4, Lots 2-8 and 12-18 in Riverhills Subdivision, Unit 1.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to adjourn as The Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation and convene as City Council.

Moved : Cm. Casso
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XIV. ADJOURNMENT


Motion to adjourn.

Moved :
Second:
For:

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Adjournment time: 9:15 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES CONTAINED IN PAGES 01 TO 44 ARE TRUE COMPLETE AND CORRECT PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 7TH DAY OF JULY, 1997. A CERTIFIED COPY IS ON FILE AT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.


GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.
CITY SECRETARY